

Jamming "All the Way"

Brass band back at Aruba Carnaval

By **JULIE RENFRO**

The Jamming Brass Band, a powerful part of the Aruba Carnival, is one of the most loved groups in the parades by the past generation.

This musical entourage consists of 38 extremely talented musicians from all over the island of Aruba.

The exciting phenomenon that happened this year at Aruba's 40th Carnival Celebration is that the band reformed. Many of the players came "all the way" from Holland just to play at this year's carnival celebration.

The Jamming Brass Band was formed 10 years ago, but they have not played together for years. Many of the original

players left, leaving this group basically non-existent.

Alex Luidens of Oranjestad is a member of the band and is excited to announce that the band will stay together even after carnival has come to a closing. The Aruban brass bands have a unique sound compared to other island's carnival music. The rhythm is called Asambeu and was left on Aruba by the slaves that were brought over by the Dutch settlers.

Carnival is not just the big party that is seems. This celebration is a reunion of family and friends. It is full of powerful meaning and dynamic music.

The music of Carnival changes every year, and every year with

a slightly different beat and a new theme story for the year.

This year's Road March song is "All the Way". This song will be played throughout the entire carnival for the people to dance and sing to. It's easy; wind up, skake up, work up, jump up, etc. and when you do it, do it "all the way."

Keep an eye and an ear out for this year's Calypso Queen. She has a meaningful story to tell us all about. She bases her meaning on several important news events from last year such as the Bobbit case, where the woman cuts off the man's private parts. The lyrics attempt to point out the proper way women should be perceived in this day and age.□



The brass bands make Aruba's Carnival come alive with the dynamic sounds of energy, a tradition in this cultural portrayal of a family reunion and spirited celebration.